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135 Senior vouchers available for farmers' markets

ANDERSON COUNTY -- Senior citizens in Anderson County may apply for produce vouchers on June 7 and 8 to use at farmers' markets.

The Anderson County Senior Citizen Program and the Anderson County Farmers' Market, in partnership with the S.C. Department of Social Services and other state agencies, will issue vouchers to eligible senior citizens.

The vouchers can be used to purchase produce at local farmer's markets.

Each eligible person will receive \$25 worth of coupons that may be used at participating farmer's markets through October 15. The vouchers will be issued on a first come first served basis until the supply is exhausted.

Individuals 60 or older, with a low monthly income, or who receive SSI or Food Stamp benefits, are eligible for these free coupons. Individuals must apply in person; provide proof of their identity, age, and their Anderson County residency.

Applicants must also meet household income eligibility limits. Information regarding the income of all household members is required to determine eligibility. Verification of Social Security numbers is also required.

The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program's goal is to supplement the diets of low-income seniors with fresh, nutritious produce while supporting South Carolina's small farmers. South Carolina is one of several states that receive funds from the USDA to operate this program.

Application for vouchers will be at the following locations:

- June 7 at 8 a.m.: Belton Senior Center beside the Belton Farmers' Market

- June 8 at 8 a.m.: Anderson County Farmers' Market

For more information, contact:
Kelly Jo Barnwell at 231-2237.